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THE
True Englishman,
BEING A
VINDICATION
Of those many
Loyal Addresses

Presented to His Majesty for His late

Gracious Declaration:

In an Answer to an *Impartial Account*
of the Nature and Tendency of the late Addresses.

——— *Non displicuisse meretur*
Festinat Cæsar qui placuisse tibi.

L O N D O N,
Printed for *William Crooke* at the *Green-*
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THE

True Englishman

A DIALOGUE

VINDICATION

OF THE

Character

OF THE

Englishman

IN THE

REPLY

TO

A

ANSWER

To an Impartial Account

OF THE

Nature and Tendency of the late

ADDRESSES.

SIR,

YOU were pleas'd to Impart a late Pamphlet, Entitled, *An Impartial Account of the Nature and Tendency of the late Addresses*: This Specious Title did the more readily incline my perusal; but I found it, (as these Saints usually boast themselves,) like the Apples of *Sodom*, of the colour of Gold without, and Rotteneſs within, that if touch'd would conſume to Powder: His firſt Section begins like a *Judas*, that with a Kiſs would betray his Sovereign: For he makes, for ſooth, his Fealty and Allegiance to his Prince, the ſeeming grand reaſon, why he hath undertaken this Libel; whereas its true conſequence is, to Aſperſe the Kings Majeſty, and all the Loyal party, with the greateſt Falſhoods imaginable: For he would Inſinuate the King, (as all Republicans uſually do) of a weak Judgment, that could eaſily be deluded by the Councils of ſuch as are near about him: whereas His ſearching Wiſ-

dom hath far excelled his whole Council : For take any single Instance (as many may be mention'd) which hath been the Result of the King alone ; and it hath infallibly on tryal, been experienc'd the most proper Cure of a Sick Nation : For I have the same Reverence for Parliaments, as this Impartial Scribe, or any *English* man can pretend : And yet I Appeal the very Parliament at *Oxford*, whether their Heats and Animosities were not timely over-ru'd by the most Princely Wisdom that ever sway'd a Scepter : For such a zeal did over-sway, at that time, the greater part of the House of Commons, that to extirpate Popery, they boldly invade the Kings Prisoner ; and *Fitz-Harris* his False Reflections on the King are easily swallowed, where Church and State are again designed to become a Commonwealth ; nor dares any Council under Heaven share this Act with the King, who by a wonderful foresight gave this Parliament a Dissolution ; which else by endless Heats, had unwarily contended, to have preserved Alive at this day, this Arch-Traytor *Fitz-Harris*, a now known Enemy to King and Kingdom : For since his Paper left in Dr. *Hawkins* Hands, who more open-mouthed in his Condemnation, then the very men who first Hugg'd his Treason ? Yet such is the Venom of Malice to blacken this Dissolution, which on a Calm return to our selves, will be Chronicled in another Age, the Mirror of Wisdom : But the Wisdom and Prerogative of our Sovereign once trampled under foot, what other Fruit or Effect can follow, then an upbraiding, a vilifying, a disgracing all Loyal Subjects, that shall dare own their Prince, in this or any other Act of His All-wise Government ? And here wickedness it self is set on the Tenter, to Vilify the late Addresses ; they must be compared with the Addresses three and twenty years

ago

ago to *Richard Cromwell*: Yet fearing, lest his Folly should stumble his Reader, at the very Threshhold he fairly owns, there is a great difference betwixt an Usurper, and a Rightful Sovereign; the only fair acknowledgment he makes throughout his Trifling Pamphlet: Yet how Irrationally doth he Argue from that time, until now; for though the Addressees were then of little value, in regard of a Powerful Standing Army to oppose them; yet now being the general known Sense of the Nation, I would ask Mr. Accomptant, whether they are not likewise Guarded with the Sword; for what Arm'd List'd man throughout the Kingdom, dares own any other Service, except that of his King? Let the King once depart with this Power (which would highly gratify our Accomptant) then I confess, farewell Addressees, and all other Loyal Acknowledgments. The third Section begins with Blustering Language; for, speaking in Defence of Petitions, he thinks it most proper to defend them, in the stile they are written: These men can Preface Petitions, and far more daring Crimes, with these, or the like Expressions: (*We Your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects*) when perchance the ground-work discovered, or the Treason of the Heart made known, they are cross'd in their ill purposes, they can Riot it in Threats and Scorn; it is astonishing as well as surprizing, that Petitions should be discountenanc'd and Addressees encouraged: As they would baffle us out of our Religion, so they would out of our Senses; for sure these Animals had been far more amazed, should the King have adhered to the Petitionary part of the Nation, being the same men, with the same Arts, that Murthered His Royal Father: *But Petitions* (saith this Libel) *are in reference to matters, every man understands; whereas Addressees speak of matters beyond*

beyond any mans reach or power to apprehend: Still I observe, the best Politicks are lodged only in these sanctified Heads; I fancied, till now, they had not so much contended for the wisdom of this World: But all must be Fools, compared with these *Machiavils*; for in an humble manner to submit our selves to a Proclamation that forbids Petitioning, must argue us of a dull senseless Temper: To be thankful in Addresses for a Kings preserving himself and three Nations, must argue us to be brisk and meddling in things we do not understand. But to examine this passage in a cool, calm temper: Did it not argue an over-hot-zeal to be prying into Secrets, where the King had drawn the Curtain? To be setting up for Petitions, when the King declared them Tumultuary? Say what they please, and they own'd themselves under Subjection to a Lawful Prince: Why? in a meer Civil regard to his Commands, they had not begg'd like Sturdy Beggars, with Weapons in their Hands: For no other end (as now too plainly discovered) were these Petitionary methods set on foot, then to muster up how numerous, how powerful the Faction was, to oppose Church and State: Alas! my weak Accomptant! one Loyal Address, that unfeignedly declares my duty and my Conscience, to my Lawful Prince, shall one day (when the Rolls of Heaven are opened) be more Intelligible, of more weight and value, then Innumerable Petitions written in dark Characters, that look one way, and row another: I understand no such Beggar, that with Christ in his Mouth, draws a Sword on my Throat.

How weakly doth my Libeller again Argue in his third Section; *Though men may be justified in Begging, yet they cannot be sufficiently qualified to determine concerning the Reasonableness and Legality of Parliamentary Pro-*

Proceedings: Hence he would Insinuate, though men may be justified in Begging, yet they cannot be sufficiently qualified to determine concerning the Reasonableness and Legality of Parliamentary Proceedings; as if he had said, though men may Petition, they cannot Address; whereas this Absurdity destroys it self in the very mentioning: For if I might Petition for a Parliament to ease my Grievances, why may I not thank the King for a Dissolution, when contrary to my Hopes, this Remedy I had proposed for my ease, might probably have proved my ruine: It being His Majesties Prerogative equally to Dissolve, as well as Call Parliaments: And who can be so silly, to fancy the Addressers, or any number of them, to determine of Parliamentary Proceedings, or to Umpire differences between His Majesty and His Great Council; when only these Addressers, (the Parliament first Dissolv'd) do return the King Thanks for a Preservation so timely thought on: They Ruffle not Parliamentary Proceedings in the time of Parliament, as the Factious numbers have been known too often to do: And here I Appeal the Parliament-Doors, whether the Petitioners are not, rather then Addressers, the Umpires or Determiners of Parliamentary Proceedings; for the Addressers have ever sat down in Peace and quiet during all Parliamentary Sessions, whereas the Factious Crew could scarce forbear (as formerly) to come down with their Hoops and Hollows, to Chace the King, if possible, from His Royal Palace; so here Mr. Accomptant must cast the Ballance on his own party, for they only are the Determiners of Parliamentary Proceedings; they only withheld this most Essential Priviledge (*viz.*) a freedom of Debates. His fourth Section begins with some seeming Pitty for his poor Prince; he would gladly know what

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Advantage can arrive to the King or Government by Addresses, and yet he Immediately tells us (though he make a mischievous Exposition on the Text,) *What Advantages are like to issue hence* : For I would ask him, who first divided the Nation into Factions and Parties as it stands at this day ; and if the Politick end of Petitions were at first, to discover the Strength, Number and Power of the Faction ; why should not Addresses (being only the Defensive part of the King and People) run the same Tryal ? Why, the Faction may be up in Arms, set in Battle-Array, (for they cannot sin) while a Loyal Subject, if he dare pay his King only bare Thanks, must be threatned an Incendiary of the Nation : Alas ! Mr. Accomptant, these are old Cheats play'd over again, and I certainly trust Providence, cannot bewitch us into our former Slavery : In the mean while, if the Kings Affection be lessened to any of His people, they may thank such Patrons as this Accomptant ; for it cannot consist with any Government to countenance its Enemies : His Majesty is well known to have an entire love for all His People, to have tryed the most Implacable Tempers with His utmost Patience ; yet if he shew any peculiar Favour to His more Loyal People, he is ever and anon threatned, how the Hearts of people must abate in their zeal for His Service : This is a distinguishing Character that will never leave this party, still to blemish others with the Crimes whereof themselves are most guilty : For now the Loyal party are Accused to have Threatned the generality of the people, whereas these Clamorous designers are too well known to have Threatned all His Majesties nearest Friends and Council, under the Reproachful Names of Papists, or Popishly-Affected : The Petitions in the mean while, Harmless, Innocent Instruments, are only

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to represent Wants and Grievances, without prejudicing or giving offence to any who choose Silently to undergo them (cuning insinuating) that all such which joyn not with them, in a noise and uproar, are Cowardly Bastards, only of knowledge enough Silently to undergo their Sufferings; as if these mens fervencies did not only aim their own good, but the good of others: Whereas I fear (should their Clamours prevail) they would utterly forget their Silent Sufferers; rather making their Neutrality character enough (as in the late Ill times) for siding with their Sovereign, to an utter Forfeiture of Life, Estate and Goods, to such as had been more zealous, in the *Good Old Cause*.

But the nature of Addresses (saith our Accountant) *command and applauds the present posture of Affairs, and justifies most of the steps and Councils, by which we have been reduced into this doleful condition:* (So far I agree with this Paragraph) the late Addresses do commend and approve the present posture of Affairs; and sure it is an extream Blessing, Providence should so dispose the Kings Heart, as in an instant, by His seasonable Advice, to snatch us from Anarchy or Confusion, the more strongly to bottom us on the Government by Law Establishd: Now an Establishment here is the doleful condition which this party fear above all others, for they are never better pleased then Fishing in troubled waters: I really fancy (as this Paragraph) they groan and labour under the present posture of Affairs, for to be tumbled from high mountains (I mean) from fanciful hopes of being Kings and Princes to follow our own Farms and Callings, must necessarily vex and anger an Ambitious Soul: Alas! It makes the best Government to lose of its Veneration, when it shall dare to place its grace and favour on any other, then these ambitious creatures.

His fifth Section again impudently reflects on the King, as if any plausible pretence could deceive or abuse him; but being resolved to answer no such false Reflections any farther, I shall only observe the late King, and our now Gracious Sovereign; (being ever desirous to Reign in the Hearts of their people,) have too often by condescensions endeavoured a compliance with many too Stiff and Rigid Articles, which Condescensions these Stubborn Creatures have ever argued a weakness of Judgment: And can there be a greater wickedness under Heaven, then to argue a Kings Affection, a want of understanding? for in no other point hath ever any weakness appeared in these two Princes, except an earnestness to comply with the people without slaughter or shedding of Blood: And here this Accountant will boast himself, I am a Man-Slayer, that would incite the King to execute all his Penal Sanguinary Laws: Whereas my only aim is, to inform the World, neither of these Kings have err'd in Politicks, except of a too great Tenderness to a Stubborn people, that instead of quelling their Hearts by these soft methods, have the more hardned themselves against Government: In the mean while, to set this Accountants following words in a right sense, which he hath perverted to a false use, they ought to run thus: *It is both evident in it self, and will be found so in the Issue, that the Addresses do contain and express the full heart and meaning of the far better part of the Nation, especially persons that make the greatest figure: For it cannot be reasonably thought men of Estates and Settlements, should endeavour by a New-Civil-War, to destroy themselves and their Families: And Mr. Accountant, your late Standard, to feel the Pulse of the Nation (I mean) the Election of Members to serve in Parliament, may reasonably (it is to be hop'd) deceive you: For however (as a punishment*

ment from God) seeing we could not see, and hearing we could not understand; yet how in an instant hath a single Declaration (such is the Power of a Princes Courage joyn'd with Wisdom) given sight to our Blindness? And sense to our Understanding? For what is wonderful observable, the Rable or Multitude that could only hope by our Confusions, instead of mounting the Horse which they were ready for, are now in all Allegiance holding the Stirrop to their lawful Sovereign; and whensoever His Majesty shall of His goodness call a Parliament, we cannot doubt under God (He can be mistaken) in such measures, which the Nation hath made him; for the Shires and Corporations cannot run such madness, having lately in all solemn manner renewed their Love and Duty with their Prince, again making Scorges for themselves. The sixth Section spends its Venom on the old Stock, to make the Addresses very useful for a Popish, or an Arbitrary Reign; this is again in effect, an old Cheat new play'd over; for as they formerly made the Church of *England*, (which was known the only Bulwark against *Rome*,) to be a Rock and Bottom for it: So to apply our selves to the King in the most serious Protestations under Heaven, to withstand all Popish or Arbitrary Power, is with these men to promote and uphold it; for they fancy we must be like themselves, to Swear one thing and mean another.

Yet they do think (which is worth our notice) such Villanous Designs to be far from the Intentions of most the Addresses. Alas! who did look for Charity, where Malice it self bears the sway? Mistake we not our selves, for this is no real Charity, only a fair Cajole to carry on the Cause the more securely: I thought these Addresses had been an inconsiderable number of such despicable Lives and Fortunes, they had not been worth this Cha-

rity : Well fare these Addressers, still say I, for some what's
 at the bottom, when a Republican offers a Golden Cup
 after this manner : I hope their Numbers are considerable,
 their Estates great, their Lives answerable to the Loyalty
 which they do prefer : And Mr. Accountant, I will so far
 comply with your daubing, solemnly to declare, we will
 rather, we will sooner be Hang'd at our Doors, then be
 Intentionally Accessary to the Establishing an Arbitrary
 Power over the Nation, or an Enslaving the Kingdom
 to Popery : Nor had the King been disturbed with Ad-
 dressers, had they not been the only proper means to
 withstand Tyranny and the *Roman* Worship : For can it
 be imagined, the Papal Faith should bee rooted out, and
 our Conventicles undisturbed ? If we can believe *Oates*
 his Narrative of a Horrid Popish Plot, the Conventicles
 are the only Seminaries for *Rome*. And here Mr. Account-
 tant may safely reckon all persons whatsoever of any Sect,
 Sort or Fashion, that withstand the Church and State by
 Law Establish'd, to be the only sure promoters of Tyranny
 and a Papal Interest : And Instead of any the late Thanks-
 givers, the late Brethren, I fear, will be found to have
 Entail'd an everlasting Infamy on themselves and their Fa-
 milies; for they refuse the Light at Noon-day, their own
 Darling *Oates* his Evidence; still stubbornly set to
 strengthen *Rome*, by Divisions among our selves : Possibly
 if they perform their promise (as the last words of this
 Section do assure) to be watchful on the late Addressers
 for preventing of Plots, they may light on some Birds,
 of their own Feather : Sure, I hope this watchfulness is
 on foot, or else we had escaped the Paper delivered by
 Dr. *Hawkins* that hath in great part undeceived the
 people : For in plain *English*, If we will believe only
 such Evidence as makes up for such or such a Party, we
 must be delivered up to believe a Lie.

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The seventh Section only reflects on the Paucity, or small number of the Addressers: A falshood (I thought) which could not have followed the ten lines that immediately proceed this Paragraph; for being newly flattered, as if most Subscribers intentionally designed no introducing Popery or Arbitrary Power; that many of the Addressers (should Popery more nearly threaten *England*) would appear most zealous in their lawful Stations to withstand it; must all this Courtship immediately tell another Tale: A few busie people have made a great noise and buz in several parts of the Kingdom: For shame give over your Courtship, or give not your self the Lie in these Flatteries: But here you are to take notice, these Addressers (to Increase or Boast a number,) have brought in no False Muster-Rolls, nor yet I dare affirm, added one Counterfeit hand: Whereas your Petitions have long since been answered; ye matter'd not what ye did, so ye fill'd up your Papers with a long list of Names, whether there were any such persons or no? Whether Men or Children? Whether Alive or Dead? Yet in Mr. Accountants godly wisdom, it is matter of wonder why the Government for its own Reputation, hath not in some publick way forbid Addresses; I fear he inclines not to this Prohibition, for any Honour he hath for the Government, but for the buz and noise he hath in Ears, for every Address strikes hard on his empty Skull: We meddle not with the Principal Cities of *London* and *York*; but knowing under what influence they stand at this day, we bless God the Loyal party struggle so near the Superior number; for seldom in any Case of importance are they out-done by many Scores: Which insignificancy of strength is much repay'd by the Countries hearty love of their King and Church.

Yet now this Scribler, that every Line falls into a Vein
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of Lying, denies other Principal Towns and Corporations, the Honour of these Addressees, yet without any Inventory from the *Gazet*, his own accompt runs from *Norwich, Bristol, Winchester, Oxford, Cambridge, Salisbury, Chichester, Hereford, Redding, Derby, Southwark, Monmouth, &c.* Were it not that to Lye is held, lawful to defend the *Old Cause*, I would not meddle further in this Fardle of Lyes: But you must pursue him by open shame or disgrace, else a *Billings-gate*-story shall pass better with them then Church History. In the eighth Section we are told, by what ways, arts and methods these Addressees are advanc'd or promoted; and to the eternal Honour of Clergy and Magistracy, they are much ascribed to their endeavours: And here I might retract this Scriblers Language, were it of any weight it would be astonishing, as well as surprizing, should they be advanc'd by any other Industry; for by these orders of men, where Wisdom and Piety most eminently appear, are Kingdoms and Commonwealths (under their chief Leader) best govern'd: To have stickled for them, is their great glory, it matters not whether so strongly (as his pitiful Droll doth infer) as for the great Character or Petition of Right: Next this Grace and Favour done the Clergy and Magistracy, which this Cross-grain'd Scribler never intended them; he reflects on such marks of Honour as have been confer'd on them that have presented them: And here Republican-like, they would confine the King to bestow His Titles on some few best deserving: The meaning is, they would confine all Honour to themselves; for no one hath any signal matter to recommend him, unless like the Incendiary of the *Ephesian* Temple, he make himself famous by some Commonwealth Outrage or other: But having ascrib'd these lawful means, how the Addressees are advanc'd in one running Breath, he again denies the wole matter; where

where shall we fix this giddy-headed Scribler? For having newly granted the King, Clergy and Magistrate, to have influenc'd these Thanks-givings: Yet now the Nation is grown on a suddain so Sullenly Cross, or else a more Generous Principle, that all the forementioned methods are available for no great numbers to joyn in these Subscriptions: Now why this mans Arguments hang no better then a Rope of Sand^l, in plain *English* is this; there are Addressees, very many Addressees, from all or most parts of the Kingdom; yet he would have his Reader to believe, there are none at all: But his utmost endeavour is not able to lay the noise in his Head, there are Addressees, he now pyles the quality, as well as number of them; and here he outfaceth the father of Lyes himself. For his words in the ninth Section are to this purpose, (*The greatest part of those who have given Thanks for Dissolving Parliaments, are such as either for want of Years, or Poverty, were never capable of giving Vote in Election of Members to sit in them.*) Whereas these Addressees, to my certain knowledge, did many of them carefully avoid all persons that were not Freeholders; witness, the great Gallantry of the Western Division of *Sussex*, as also the Grand-Juries of several Counties; a most lamentable Shift, to baffle all Loyal Undertakers! Sure no punishment can be Capital enough for this insufferable untruth, to expose the best Gentry, Tradesmen and Yeomanry under Heaven, by the Scum and Refuse of the place where they live: After this false manner he hath Alarm'd *Norwich*, that I think are hereby especially bound to Prosecute his Villany: To censure Addressees as Popishly Inclind, is almost worn off, by the general contempt of generous good men: But to expose them for Criminals of a high Nature, Scandalous, Bankrupts, Byass'd by Crusts of Bread and Potts of Ale; these Characters, (one could not imagine) should have

entred

entred the Devil himself; who Characteristically is still'd the Accuser of the Brethren: The King himself is too well acquainted with these spiteful Pens, to believe the worse of any Subject; being handled by them, especially the whole number of Addressers suffering under one and the same Character: But instead of returning any Reproach for Reproach, or Lye for Lye, I shall observe them after the Truth it self; as they are plainly described (in the 2 Epist. to *Tim.* the 3 chap.) *Traytors, Heady, High-minded, lovers of Pleasure more then lovers of God, having the form of Godliness and denying the Power thereof; for of this sort they which creep into Houses, and lead Captive silly Women: Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also withstand the Truth, &c.* Now let them Judge themselves, whether in their Moralls they can withstand this Scripture; which however had it been written in those days, should only have past for a sorry Doctrine.

The eleventh Section doth violently oppose it self to most Corporations of *England*, and would perswade the the world, because these Corporations are endeavouring anew to beget a right Understanding betwixt the King and themselves, therefore they are Debaucht in their Moralls, and much of the same temper in their Politicks; scarce able to judge what their Charters have enabled themfor, which is, to make choice of any Members for Parliament: To observe here the madness of a giddy Commonwealth Brain; these Corporations were of late Courtied, the Sanctuaries of Religion and Wisdom; as if every Mayor, Alderman or Burgess, had himself been a fit Representative for Parliament; now they have scarce Sense to distinguish their own Names: They must be vilified for their very Trade or Employ sake; so our Accomptant calls them in Scorn, (Mercers, Inn-keepers, Taylors and Thatchers;) sure these Corporations will admit

mit no longer a delusion, for they above any others, may easily discern whither these Republicans (once become their Masters) would quickly drive them to Post and Pillory, rather than Birthright and Property : But what a stir follows hence, the Gentlemen of the Gown, as if the long Robe could be entic'd by foolish deceivable words, to joyn with a party that lately stript them of it : But here I must once more ask this idle Accomptant, whether returning the King Thanks, a Parliament being Dissolved, be in any probable sense the same thing, as to determine of Parliamentary Proceedings, or to Umpire betwixt the King and His great Council ; the one is matter of Fact, whether Sun shines or not, the other the Priviledges of Parliament, which are of late, what the House pleaseth it self every day to resolve ; and if so, can have no limits to bound it : And here we are profoundly silent, only in reverence of Parliaments, could heartily wish, they were once aright stated, for the great ease and relief of the people : Thus far this Accomptant rides seeming triumph over the number and quality of the Addressers, though like *Oliver* his Master, for his rash Enterprize, he be cast headlong out of his Chariot ; yet he must go on to tear in peices the Matter it self of the late Addresses ; and here his Mountains will be again turn'd into Mole-hills, for he will have his own private Sense, to pass for the Sense of a whole Nation : Which is this, *To give the King Thanks for His promise to Govern by Law, is a disloyal and gross Reflection on the King ; as if the King had governed, or intended to govern Arbitrarily, or may govern so, if he please to do so :* This is such an inference on the matter of the late Addresses, that nothing can be argued more contrary to the Art of reasoning : To reduce it to a familiar instance, in runs thus : *Who ever hath given the King Thanks for His Promise to govern by Law, doth presume the King hath governed, or will govern contrary to Law : But the Addressers have given the King Thanks for His Promise to govern by Law ; Therefore the King is presumed to*
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have govern'd, or that he will govern contrary to Law : An Inference well becoming this Accomptant, who is still as far from Sense as Loyalty : The Kings Promise, that hath ever been held Sacred in all Ages, and is the best or most sure prop of a Kingdom or Commonwealth, is made by these Silly Creatures, an Invention of many Tales, that Proteus-like, can take any shape or figure for self Interest, or worldly design : A Protestant to day, a Papist to morrow, to govern by Law, to intend an Arbitrary Power ; they fancy the Royal word of like Efficacy with the Solemn League and Covenant ; which did promise to make the King Glorious, but it was to be so in Heaven : Nor can it unbecome any Subject to thank His Prince, for such a gracious Promise, especially in a time when its enemies had Asperst the Power, with too great Fears and Jealousies.

Sometimes it pleaseth Providence to advance Truth by quite contrary Agents, so the Devil believes a God and Trembles : And this ill Pen at unawares advanceth Majesty to its just height, for the Addressers most joyfully acquiesce in this Maxime, *His Ministers may act Illegally, and they are lyable to answer for it ; but he can do nothing but what the Law directs and justifies.* I wish Mr. Accomptant you had pin'd up this at *Westminster-ball-gate*, when ye made the late King an equal Offender, or far worse then His worst Minister : Your own Sentence (for the rest will be found Dross and Dung) shall conclude as it doth this twelfth Section, *Rex nihil potest nisi id solum quod de Jure potest* : The King can do nothing but what he can do by Law. The thirteenth Section with much following stuff to the same purpose, would suggest the people as if the Addressers had made their Lives, Liberties or Estates wholly Dependent on the Kings Will and Pleasure : If they had done so, what harm had they done themselves ? For the Kings Natural Justice inclineth him with *Samuel*, to challenge the whole Earth whose Ox, or whose Ass have I at any time unjustly taken away ? But no Age or people
scare

fear what may follow in succeeding Reigns, the Addressers have been very tender to Establish themselves and Families on the Government by Law Establish'd: For if Mr. Accomptant takes a right measure: Therefore are these Addressees seasonably design'd to Thank the King; because as he resolves no Arbitrary Power in Himself, so not to suffer it in others.

With the same Reverence for Parliaments, as can appear in the best *Protestants*, we must observe somewhat more Arbitrary or Illegal did discover it self, in several Imprisonments, in exaction of Fees, in Hurrying men from their Houses by unusual Messengers, then ever was known in the King Himself for twenty years Reign: Now no Council of men under Heaven being held Infallible; why may not some mistakes befall a House of Commons? For they are not Gods that they cannot err; nor doth it diminish the Honour of a Parliament, that they can err: For being met on the weightiest concerns ever Parliament was called, to reduce us from our too just Fears of *Poper*y, why might they not fall? as too often is seen in Popular Assemblies, into some greater Heats and Animosities, then were agreeable with their Fellow-Subjects: For these thought they had done a Duty, in paying Obedience to a Royal Proclamation; when on a suddain it was unexpectedly made a breach of Priviledge: Now the King calmly reflecting on these methods, that might have proved farther unwarrantable, He Dissolves them with this Declaration: *That as he had never made any Arbitrary Imprisonment on any single person, so he would not suffer it to be done by others, or a Parliament it self*: Now is a concurrence with this Kingly Declaration, which roots out the hope of Arbitrary Power; a sacrificing (as much as in us lies) *Magna Charta*, the Petition of Right, or our Statute Laws, to the Sovereign Will and Pleasure of the Prince? No, it rather Argues (as this Accomptant hath done it for them) if they are so heated and transported against their own and the King-

doms Representatives, on the least Invasion of the Liberty and Property of the Subject, it is not to be imagin'd they will ever tamely loose their Lives, or suffer themselves to be dispossess'd of their Estates, at the sole or indisputable pleasures of the Prince, or any multitude of men assembled under him.

The fourteenth Section quarrells the Syllables or very Expressions of the late Addressees, as if some had been more Lavish then others, in their Thanks to the King: Why, it matters not, in how various a Dress, how diversly the Rhetorique of several parts of the Kingdom doth adorn the late Declaration; it was utterly impossible that so many remote places, distinctly Addressing for themselves, should bottom on the same words, unless they could have been advantaged with the new-found Trumpet, which conveys a sound at a great distance: This rather argues some Inspiration from Above, that all the Curious Rhetorique that ever was, should in its divers forms and manner of Speech, so admirably agree the sense of the whole Nation, in returning His Majesty Thanks for Checking (in a very Parliament,) the least Invasion of their Fellow-Subjects: Such an exceeding charm doth an *English*-mans Birth-right carry with it, that where ever it is once maintained, it can make a Coward Valiant as Hector, an Inn-keeper, Taylor or Thatcher, to out-Rhetorique the best Courtier.

I confess, I am very unskilful in Presidents, whether ever *England* did Thank a King for Dissolving Parliaments; possibly no occasion ever was given, for doing what hath been now done: Yet if I mistake not, the Republicans themselves, too sensible of the Tyranny of a Rump Parliament, did return a Usurper Thanks for turning them out of Doors: And what a Heroe would he have been esteem'd in our Chronicle, that should have Dissolved the Fourty One Parliament, afore they had finish't what the King had given them leave to do, the cutting his own Throat: And sure our first Leaders of these brave Addresses, can merit no other, in the Book of
Fame

Fame, then Champions of the *English* Liberty, that seasonably vowed their Lives and Fortunes in Defence of a King, that for His meanest Subjects sake had opposed himself to multitudes of men, now however calmly undeceived, and in great part returned to themselves: Nor shall this Accomptants high provoking Folly, urge or enforce any unseemingly Reflection on the two last Parliaments, for be they men of great Integrity and Ability, as well as of great Estates, yet we have seen these mighty things to Truckle for a little Honour, or some worldly design; and this especially squints an eye on some great Lawyers: But our Accomptant, without hearing any one speak, besides himself, clamours on for frequent Parliaments, and yet implies to Sit their own Leisure: How frequent Parliaments can be implied, with a grant of time for their own Sitting, I cannot imagine; for I never heard of any Parliament that Dissolv'd it self, or ever thought they had sat long enough.

But our Laws carefully providing for Annual Parliaments, wisely foresaw how mischievous long Sessions might prove to this Kingdom, which (I confess) was least discernable in the late long Parliament, though some Grievances (during such a long Sessions) could not possibly escape this Assembly, yet far (I am sure) from Popery, or Selling Votes to Enslave their Country: In earnest, it hath pleased Providence to justify them best, by having Dissolved them; for how heartily is it wished, the same Faith and Allegiance should pass in these Days, as did with them; nor was ever a Nation more wanting such a Parliament, then at this day: For how are our Fears and Jealousies too justly continued, of the Hellish Conspiracy of *Papists*? Which however must abundantly increase on Divisions among our selves: How can we ever hope any Aid or Advice, to our near Protestant Allies, that afore we will Harken to their weighty loud Cries, we must force our King to part with His nearest Ally, His own only Brother: Nor can any Blessing attend this
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Insulting over the Bowels of our King, which must incline a Natural Love for His own Flesh and Blood. *But these Addresses* (saith our Accomptant) *do imply a more dangerous importance, as if the very Being of Parliaments did wholly depend on the Will and Pleasure of the King.*

I know not what this importance doth mean, but our very enemies doth tell us, it is equally the Kings Power to Call and Dissolve Parliaments : And I think the very Being of a thing must certainly reside in him, that first, giving of it Life or Being, can at His Will and Pleasure vanish it, into its first-nothing.

Doubtless His Majesty is very inclinable to believe he can Rule according to Law without Parliaments, yet of all Princes most desirous to correspond with His People, He is induc'd withal, to a frequent Calling of Parliaments, and could be well satisfied with longer Sessions did they not too often dote on Fears and Grievances, which still Increase them ; rather then Consult of His Majesties Supplies, which are for the Strength and Safety of a Kingdom.

Not a word hitherto of the Duke of *Tork* : Now this fifteenth Section Summons him to the Bar, and after his usual Fate, it makes him pass his Tryal wholly unheard ; it concludes him a known violent Papist, though no single Evidence hath yet Sworn him at Mass : And granting him a Papist, it allows him no space for hereafter Repentance : The Addresses expressing a desire to continue the Succession in the Right Line, do therefore (after this Accountants customary Art of Arguing) intend an immediate coming of the Duke of *T*— to the Throne : As if the Tenants of a Mannor, should be charged with hastning their Lords Death, because they would disavow him from Disinheriting his Right Heir : We are sure the Addressers are herein Christians of the first Primitive stamp, that cannot alter a due course of Inheritance, let the next Right Heir declare his Confession, never so contrary to the Christian Faith : We could be well satisfied

ed, as Circumstances now stand, in submission with Providence, the Duke of *York* might Live and Die Duke of *York*: But if for a punishment of a Kingdom, and sending this Prince abroad to Learn his Religion, it please Gods Ordinance to submit us to a Popish King, we must with Patience embrace the Rod: It cannot fare worse with us, then in the late Usurpers days, which however are never mentioned, being wisht for again: Our Threats, instead of these, are Fire and Faggot, as in the days of Queen *Mary*; which yet cannot once be imagin'd under the Duke of *York*, for besides his Natural Love to *England*, his exact Rules for Justice and Moderation, his Breeding up his Children in the Protestant Religion; his very Interest with *Rome*, would perswade him against Queen *Maries* Tyranny: For I am perswaded, her Flames and Burnings, did (under God) first strengthen the Happy Reformation: And of all other means, hath continued at this day, a Holy Revenge in all *English* Hearts, of the *Pope*, and his Hateful Inquisition: The Duke of *York*, if ever he come to the Crown, must come a single Person; and why may not an Act of Parliament with Expedients against Exercising any Papal Power, be as binding and obliging as any Act of Exclusion whatsoever; for what a Parliament can infallibly do in one Case, they can do in the other: And here Mr. Accomptant must observe his Aspersing the Addresses with a Notorious Falshood (*viz.*) *That they are for the Duke of York, without any Provision afore-hand for the Security of the Protestant Religion, or Safe guarding the Lives of such who Profess it*: Whereas these are the only well-wishers to comply with the King in such Expedients; which if possible to be found out, must call in question the Wisdom of the great Council: If instead of vexing our Brains for Eloquence in an ill Cause, we would acquiesce in Gods Ordinance; we should never do ill that good may come of it: But our Accomptant is again at his false Logick; For (saith he) *to continue the Monarchy in the Right Line, is to be Zeal-*

ons for the Bill of Exclusion; which *Ipso facto* shuts out the next Right Heir, and doth descend it to a Nameless Successor: This Fellow scarce deserves an admission to be Hift at in the Logick-School; however his Bowle must run the Byals he hath set it: For a few Sections since, the whole Learning and Wisdom of the Nation in a Box together, were too little to determine of Parliament Proceedings.

Now it is amifs, if Inn-keepers, Thatchers and Taylors cannot dispose the Inheritance of the Crown, which yet the House of Commons did acknowledge themselves the most tender and weighty point, that ever came before a Parliament; nay, it was declared by several of them, of such Tendernefs as scarce able to admit a debate: To tell, ye what we mean, by engaging to defend to our last drop of Blood, the Protestant Religion with the next Successor; in plain *English*, is this, to die rather (as the Protestant Religion binds us) in a due submission to Gods Ordinance, then resist it: And this good Conscience, to secure my lawful Prince on his Lawful Throne, may probably make an Impression on such a Generous Heart as the Duke, to win him over from all Papal Cruel usage, for such Christian Opinions: However in this Case, the Church Weapons are only Prayers and Tears; a resistance must bring a more total consequence, then loss of Life, a damnation for ever.

Nor again doth a submission to a Popish King, infallibly argue, a robbing of the Crown of its Supremacy; for this Supremacy was often clast at, by our Kings when in dark times, at the highest Devotion for *Rome*: However our Parliaments, if they would meet the Kings compliance, which seems offered them, in a Critical Hour, (by a wonderful good Providence,) might easily acquiesce all these disturbances: Which in earnest, being too well known by Dissenters, doth prove the main-stumbling block, why this compliance must not be hearkned after.

This stout parley or resistance at the entrance, may too probably

probably let in Popery at the back-door: Yet to encourage our Heats, and too strong Passions, one against another, our Accomptant falsely suggests his Parties, the Addressees were so many Muster Rolls for the Duke; and that however they may comfort themselves in a Civil War: For he craftily implies, these Muster Rolls do not endanger the number of Dissenters: Such another Suggestion to Alarm a Civil War, will scent our Libeller all over, for a bloody Jesuit; or to have pertaken in *Fitz-Harris* his late Horrid Paper that was stuf with little else. then *Arm, Arm.*

The sixteenth Section seems very peevish with the Addressees, in regard they nearly depend on the Royal word, to govern by Law. For any relyance that can quiet our Heats, is a main Grievance with this Party: The reason why King and Parliament have found it very difficult to meet Dangers, and prevent Mischiefs, hath been this, because they were to deal with a people, whose greatest fear was, the ending all Fear and Jealousy: For once mistakes and misunderstandings remov'd, a Commonwealth Game is quickly over; and rather then this Lusty Puss, once well started, should too soon run off its Breath, they will Hunt a false Scent, several by-ways, out of the Kings High-road: For when their Designs are not ripe enough, to fasten on His Majesty, then His Ministers must be clamour'd with an ill Administration of Justice: And as Fears are usually maintain'd by Impossibilities, so here the Kings Officers are fancied to be Byast by the Bribery of a *Roman* Faction: Yet laying this heavy corruption on the Ministers in General; I challenge any single instance, where a Papist hath escap'd, Lawfully Convict afore any Session or Assize: We blame no apprehensions, which proceed from an Implacable hatred of the Papists; but abhor an Aspersing our Government, as if it did either abuse or pervert the Law to base ends, or hinder its due Legal Execution: It is endless to observe, how these very men are themselves the great perverters of the Law;

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for they will have a Sheltring, or Hiding from *Divine Service*, to be Recusancy in one sort of men, and Saintship in others : Whereas Mr. Accomptant speaks very proper, it is not having good Laws, but their being truly Executed, that will advantage or relieve us : Now if the goodness of a Law be plac'd in its Execution, I am sure Justice is pictur'd blind, and can favour a Dissenter, no more then a Papist : In this sense only, we may seem doubtful of Security by our Laws, if they shall fasten on some Enemies, and others escape free : But to get off this sore that rubs so hard, our Accomptant will own with some odd sham Thankfulness, we are in a little Security, during His Majesties Life : And I call it a Sham-Thanks, for his next words start our old Fears : *The Laws we have already (saith he) are ineffectual, except a farther Provision be made afore the Kings Death* : In the Name of God, who hinders such Provision except themselves ? Therefore hath the King (only desiring the Succession in the Royal Line) often minded them of such Provisions, which yet deferr'd for needless Heats, may entail a Curse on some Families, when repenting too late, they are under a Popish King : There is no *Protestant*, I believe, in earnest tells ye, the Popish-Plot is over, for it is too strongly joyned by multitudes of our selves, to receive an easie Defeat : What the Addressing Muster-Rolls have taken from this Strength, the Petitionary numbers have over and above Supply'd : I am such a Hearty abhorrer of all Plots, especially to make Plots, that ground themselves on litle or no reason ; that I wish I had never heard of the *Protestant Joyner*, or read *Fitz-Harris* his last Confession, which hath startled the sober Heads of all Parties : This Fellows too often reflecting on the Royal word, as if some Common-Tence-Breaker had made, must necessarily heat all Loyal Blood, above a reasonable height : Therefore were there a thousand things absolutely necessary for our preservation, wherein the King cannot meddle without a Parliament ; yet we fully declare, rather

ther then our King should run the hazards he did, in the two last Parliaments, we would Establish our selves on this bare Declaration, that he will govern by Law: For experience hath informed us (in spite of malice) the King on His bare word, to have been more tender of our Lives, Liberties and Religion, then a thousand Subjects tyed by contrary Oaths, when they have once attained the Mastery over their Fellow-Subjects: And it would be a Blockish Incredulity (being armed by former Experience) to venture a *Solemn League and Covenant*, rather then this bare Declaration. Touch an Ill Conscience, and it flies into suddain Fury; if any Wise, Sober Head mention the late Troubles, Intentionally to forewarn the same Arts and Methods that occasion'd a Civil War: This is (saith the seventeenth Section) to renew the memory of our unhappy Divisions, to Asperse with bitterness the Act of Oblivion; and insinuating the Interest of the King and Nation, to have it buried in perpetual Oblivion, he makes it forthwith justifiable, on what grounds the first War did arise: As also if these times are compared with the like circumstances, they must hasten for the like Redress, he Parallels these times, with these hasty Dissolutions of Parliament, with the Massacre in *Ireland*, as if the *Papists* were again countenanc'd in the like Game: Now these Comparisons are to exasperate our minds to the like taking up of Arms to this purpose; he too much hugs the late beloved War, to pass it off at an easie rate: *For to deal plainly* (so runs his own words) *I know nothing that can so plausibly justify the Parliaments Cause in that War, as the telling the World, that there was little or no difference betwixt those Principles, and the Principles of those that sat in the two last Parliaments:* I thought no Principles on the best Faith or pretence under Heaven could justify a Rebellion or Civil War; but it seems a Bill of Exclusion, or if our Parliament should chance to be of the same Complexion of Forty one, this may justify a War against our Lawful Prince.

I fear Mr. Accomptant your too forward zeal hath laid open this point, more naked then your Party designed at this juncture: And the two last Parliaments have disingaged your preferment, except on a Gallows, to make Religion it self, (which must be yielded the best preference) a Cause for Rebellion: Besides your foolish fond Passion for the late Rebels, makes you fancy them disturbed, when living peaceably and with submission, they are received into the same Favour with the Kings best Subjects: It was to have been hop'd such unparalleled Clemency as an Act of Oblivion, should have pacified all Hearts, Tongues and Hands: But you may sooner whiten an *Ethiopian*, then scoure all Blemish from a Rebels heart: Yet these hard Hearts must be courted for their Tenderness, as if they *Atlas*-like were the only Supporters of Heaven, I mean our Religion and *English* Liberties, against a Popish Prince: These harsh Immodest Reflections on the State, now (in the eighteenth Section) turn edge on the Church; for it is impossible to Wound one, and the other not feel the smart: Like *Hipocrates* Twins, they Weep or Laugh together. The Addresses aiming at the Establish'd Laws, which are agreeable to Scripture, to bring all Christians under the reach of one true Church, are made by this Party, the only Drums and Trumpets to promote a new War; it being the Essential mark (as I have already observed) of all Republicans, to blemish others with the faults whereof themselves are guilty: For whether is it more proper the Church should submit to them, or they to the Church? This is as if the Handmaid should take place of the Mistress; yea I fear Faction is scarce good enough to be called the Churches Handmaid: However it makes an Addresser smile, to hear her Ceremonies, her Form of Worship, her Hierarchy it self, to be settled by Acts of Parliament: For if so, I can easily make appear, they are more binding on them, (and this from their own mouths) then any thing that can be proved of Divine Right: To understand the Interest of the Protestant Religion, (is with this Accomptant) to pull down the Out-guards and Fences, (I mean) the 35th of *Q. Eliz.* which looks on every Schism, whether by Papists or Sectaries equally dangerous, for destroying this Established Church, preserv'd only by Union within it self: And is it not a shameless Impudence, These Dissenters should contend for an Indulgence, which *Coleman* through all his Letters, did labour his his utmost to attain by a Popish Power; and for which *Stafford* declares he gladly lost his Life? Our main arguing why this Act cannot be Re-pealed, here follows, that it being the most probable help under Heaven

ven to keep out Popery, we shall not fear if forthwith put into due Execution, that it will ever prove as fatal to the Conformable Clergy, as it now doth to Dissenters: For if Dissenters could be won by the Spirit of Love, or be driven by the Rod into the Sheepfold, we should never hear of a Popish Prince, or any other Wolf to destroy us: And yet to be zealous after this manner, for the Protestant Religion, reflects (saith this Accomptant) on the Addressers, as if they were the Disgrace and Reproach of any Religion they take on them to profess: *So our Saviour was accused by the Jews for a Glutton and a Wine-Bibber:* In the mean while they forget their Gallant Lord, Lord, that hath introduc'd a new mode of Conversion, with his Dam-me and Rummers of Clarret of a like stamp, with some other Leaders, that for Sodom, Pride, Turn-Coats, and Ambition, cannot be parallel'd on the the Surface of the Earth: But these are Christs, and cannot Err, they are Lambs and must play: The unreasonableness of an Indulgence being too plain, except these Addressers cut their own Throats, I shall not take notice of any farther Clamours of this kind, having besides been often enough answered by the best Pens and Writers of this Age: And in earnest, instead of an Answer, his following Non-sense is a proper Remedy for the Spleen, for he affirms the Religion of Dissenters, to be establish'd by Law; yet the Accoutrements and Modes (as he scornfully calls them) of the National Religion, cannot be submitted to: Now these Ceremonies and Modes utterly refused, how can it follow, the Religion of Dissenters to be Establish'd by Law: Whereas these Ceremonies and Modes (the marks of our Outward Worship) are the only things the Law can take notice of: As for Foundation, Doctrines, they are contained in Scripture, which is the revealed will of God to his people, in what they are to believe and perform: And if Dissenters allow our Establish'd Articles of Religion, they are sure more Nice than Rational, in refusing a Conformity to Ceremonies, which are but Mint and Cummin, compared with the weightier things of the Laws: And if try'd in indifferent things (which themselves hold harmless enough) they are too stubborn to yield an obedience: Can it be reasonably Imagin'd they should be admitted a Liberty to Preach this Stubbornness, or Perverse Ill humours unto others? They may thank themselves, that having once had the Power, they shew'd the Now-Conformists, this Politick Art to guard their Religion, by admitting no Indulgence to any Opinion, contrary to their own: Nor need they any Ecclesiastical Preferments, for they make advantage of the Tithes, that

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Bar them such Maintenance, to a far greater Enriching themselves, then they could do by Tithes, or any settled Allowance.

To this purpose, they ever fix themselves in Rich Cities or Corporations; whereas did they Preach the Gospel, for Gospel-sake, they would sometimes settle in small Villages, or poor Parishes, for these may rather want a Soul-refreshment, then Rich Towns, where they fare Sumptuously every day: These things considered, I fancy (this will I give thee) hath a large influence on this Party: When in the mean while many small Vicarages and mean Church-Livings, are forc'd to say for their Calling, *Not gain-sake, woe be to me if I Preach not the Gospel of Christ*: An Indulgence hitherto appearing a main Road for Rome, how dare the Addressers do other, then withstand the Repealing of an Act, Which once Repealed, must open a Gate to all Licentiousness? For as Parliaments have Power to Enact Laws, so they have the same Power to abolish: But all along must be understood (with Mr. Accomptants leave) the Kings good Will and Pleasure: And it seems, he would have it understood, for he never mentions it: And sure it becometh the Kings Wisdom, as well as His Great Council, how they meddle with Laws, as with this which answereth the end, if ever any did (were it put to Execution) for which it was made: The two last Parliaments are ever and anon flattered with some specious Titles; but as I have observed, they are disingaged from this Authors preferment, except on a Gallows; for a few Sections since, he Craftily argues, how zealous on the behalf of *England* they had been for the Bill of Exclusion; which of so high Importance, if denyed, would again justify a Civil War: Now he reflects on some of these Members, as if of another Religion then by Law Established; and if so, sure unworthy to sit in an Assembly, that are presumed to be making Laws, in Defence of the first Reformation: Nor do I then think them then such proper Judges on behalf of *England*, as twenty or thirty persons in a County or Corporation; though most of them (as this Accomptant scornfully speaks) are not worth Fourty Shillings Freehold a year, or many of them scarce able to speak ten words of Sense together: For a mean Impolitick man, may perchance act more Peaceable and quiet, then a great Estate joyned with a Subtle Head: However, if this Author Escape a Parliament, he cannot miss a Pillory in Town or Corporations, nor are a Million of Rotten Eggs enough to retort his numberless Reflections: But if those Addressers, that Heartily joyned for an Execution of Penal Statutes against

Dissenters;

Dissenters, be neither Popishly inclin'd, or yet Ignorant Clergy-men, then this Accomptant is taken in his usual Trap (I mean) a Notorious Lye: Nor can this Impudence Brazen it self against the Sun, for these Addressers are the best known Protestants, in regard of a strict adherence with the Church of *England*, which according to Law, is only allowed to distinguish us from Papists and Sectaries: And much more Honourable doth a Cassock or Surplice recommend a Civil Respect, then a Presbyterian Cloak Lined (like this Pamphlet) with Lying and Deceit. Now drawing his Pamphlet to a Conclusion, he is most outrageous, as the Devil is, when he hath but a short time to Reign: For it seems there is somewhat behind more Mischievous then any thing that hath been already mentioned: And what can this mighty matter mean? Sure an Army new landed on *Salisbury Plain*! No such thing; it is only an acquainting the King in the late Addressers, that there are Republicans and Fanaticks within His Dominions; a Truth so visible, that however now become astonishing and amazing, hath been this Accomptants Triumph, all along his Pamphlet: For though he would have them now march Invisibly under ground, yet in how large Figures hath he described their number, Power and Estates; comparatively with whom, the Addressers are very inconsiderable in Wealth and Number. *For put all of them together* (saith the seventh Section) *and they make not so great a number, as we have seen not long since to one Petition for a Parliament:* 'Tis easily seen here what need a great Lyar hath of a Memory: But his Jury follows, why these Republicans being known, are not Prosecuted? Possibly for the same reason, why this Author reflecting on some Members of the two last Parliaments, names not a man? Or Aspersing the Addressers in general, he deposeth against no single Person; Thus Folly is made to answer Folly: But he is arriving at his Master-piece, to buz over the Popish Plot; and he makes a loud noise about it, as if he had been the first Discoverer: Yet if you tell him of a Plot upon a Plot; why immediately from Popishly inclin'd, you are become the Pope himself: But whatever was hid in the *Meal-Tub*, is too plainly discovered by the *Cooper*: And *Fitz-Harris* his Libel needs little expounding, since his Confession is brought to light: What too or three say of Factionous and Ambitious Designs, may pass for a Tale, or worth little notice: But if witnessed by several thousand Hands, I fear it may work a greater Impression (then this Libel will admit) on the Hearts of the people: For an *English* man seldom sets his Hand, but as his Heart means: I confess, with a vile Asper-

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sion (which I would have all Republicans observe) as well as this Libel, for a whole Kingdom to suffer in its Honour, by standing represented in the Face of the World, as Broken and Divided within it self, and sinking back into Confusion: This Aspersion however so true, no way reflects on the King, for he hath done nothing since he was Restored, to loose the love of his People; unless discerning a Rebellion every where to spread it self, out of a too great Tenderness, he hath suffered it to take a deep rooting: But it is impossible, under any, or all specious pretences, such an Ingratitude should seize *English*-Hearts, to enter a War against such wonderful Love, which the King on all occasions hath express'd His People: To Flatter therefore no sort of men, as if an equal Star did influence all Loyalty; I do believe the Character of *England*, as it now stands, must correct it self in many Circumstances, afore it can make us of any Reputation with Alliances Abroad, or discourage the *French* Monarch from encroaching on his Neighbours: Instead of a Bill of Exclusion, to agree in Expedients to bind a Popish King with as strong Chains as the Law can Invent, against Exercising any Papal Power; instead of distinguishing Scurrilous Names and Knots, to joyn Hands and Hearts for a sincere promoting the Religion by Law established; and on a calm return to our selves, this Healing Council will not seem to be influenc'd from a Pensioner of *France*, or any that are under such a Conduct: This answer intending all possible Honour to the two last Parliaments, makes no attempt to involve them under any Crimes or Accusations: But future Parliaments may observe from the now known sense of the Nation, how unkindly any Fines or Imprisonments are taken at their hands, that being chosen Representatives, instead of Easing and Relieving, should oppress any Fellow Subjects: To which purpose its credibly reported, an Eminent Member of the last Parliament at *Westminster*, did humbly offer the Priviledges of the House to be settled, within certain bounds: For while every one (said he) doth produce some new breach of Priviledge, it must break the Subjects, as well as Purse; and turn the *English* Affection that ever inclin'd a Parliamentary stream, to run in some other Channel: My hopes are the next Parliament, on a sense of our too great Heats and Divisions, will not widen them, by any distinguishing Marks and Characters: But if forc'd to make any Exemplars of Justice, to lay the Guilt on such persons that by an unseasonable zeal have farthest gone aside, from the Government by Law Establish'd.

But this Libeller and my self are utterly unfit to direct a Parliament,

ment, what part of the Nation are Offenders, or what punishment they will allor Offences: Nor I think need they the Advice of an Enemy (such is this Libel) having had too late Experience of a Civil War, to be fond of returning to it again, or ever to disturb a Kingly Power, that is well observed, the very Genius of the Nation. The concluding part of this twentieth Section, to incite a hatred in future Parliaments against Addressers, cunningly Insinuates, that where ever these Addressers do speak of Fanaticks or Republicans, of Enemies of the Church and State; they Reflect on the two last Parliaments, which much deserves a serious Enquiry, and on Tryal is found utterly impossible: For several Members of these two last Parliaments have Subscrib'd the Addresses, and cannot be thought in so doing, to have Revil'd themselves.

It is true, these Addressers do speak of Pernicious Enemies, of an old Leaven, of Flames breaking; and I fancy no Parliaments will take these marks on themselves: However, it doth not diminish the Honour of a Parliament, that some ill Members are among them; for a Judas may be found among the Disciples of Christ: And to reflect on Ambitious Ill men, for Banishing them a House of Commons, will never shake the Pillars of a Throne

This Libeller (I have already taken notice) too much in love with a Civil War; is raising an Army in his own Brains, which he chargeth on the Addressers, and his Blood heats at such an Excuse, as if he should loose every drop in the over-boiling; because Addressers (in opposition to some part of the Legislative Power, as he would have it) do offer only His Majesty their Lives and Fortunes: I thought Peace and War had been an undoubted Inherent Right in the Crown.

Yet it seems, without a Popish King, this Accomprant would rob it of its choicest Jewel; for he calls this offer to the King, only one part of the Constitution, as if some other part were to joyn in this Prerogative; or very probable this Libel would share this command of Peace and War, to give it rather the other part of the Legislative Power, in opposition to the King: But it cannot easily slip our Memory, what a Trayterous Position it is, upon any pretence whatsoever, to take up Arms against the King, or to take Arms by His Authority against His Person, or those that are Commissioned by Him. Sure if His Majesty is to Redress any Reviling of any one part of the Legislative Authority, he must Redress this dangerous Aspersing his late Royal Declaration; which to Inflamm His Subjects to a new War, (Craftily Insinuates) as if it had been the Setting up of his Standard,

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and the Addressees to have been so many Muster-Rolls to fight under His Banner: There is no jesting with Edge-Tools; and I believe, had any Pamphlet Revil'd the Parliament-part of Government, as this hath done His Majesty, it had deservedly suffered ere this, by the Hands of the Common Hang-man: But having vented all imaginable Michief, he hopes his Discourse in Fighting, will conclude in His Majesties Relieving His Allyes abroad; or Fighting the Ambition of France, that too greedily invades his Neighbours; and it seems, in such a Case the Treasure and Lives of His people are to be Sacrificed at His Service: Why? I am glad His Majesty at any rate can be allowed His good Subjects: I still fear an Enemies offer; its probable they offer, what they intend shall never admit a Tryal; for except they will mend their Manners, they will keep the King too busie at Home, by Fears and Jealousies, from ever looking Abroad: For, if besides Heat and Zeal, already in a flame, it be allowed, the poorer sort (as this Accomptant seemingly implies) to thirst after War, we may expect a very short time of Peace: And I leave any Impartial Judge, to Account whether the Petitionary part, for this Reason are not most lyable to raise Troubles; all the great Estates being lodged in the Magistracy, who are confessed by this Libel it self, the main Addressees: And this Libeller forc'd sometimes to deal fairly, for vending other whiles his false Ware, doth well suggest the King Himself (besides the care and Estates of all His Subjects) having more to loose then them all, can ever hardly (unless for saving His own Throat) be induc'd to a Civil War; nor doth this Libel ever touch this harsh string, I mean a Civil War, but it withall implies, how unequal the Addressees are to the Body of the Nation; and whether this boast of number signify a Peaceable heart, is likewise left to any Indifferent man to determine. The last thing which this Accomptant would observe of Addressees, is this Accusation, which he hath already unjustly charged on them; and that is, *a small number of men, without Previous advice had of each other, or any way Authoriz'd to Judge of the State of the Kingdom*: This is such a gross mistake, that setting the Case right (as it ought to be Stated) answers the whole matter: For these Addressees undertaking no such thing (as is falsely suggested) to determine of the State of the King, but rather a bare giving Thanks for His Majesties seasonable Wisdom and Counsel in the Conduct of His Affairs, there needed no such Previous Advice, to be had each of other, or any way to be Authoriz'd for these Thanks: For suppose the King hath done a Subject any private
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good, or a Subject believes the King hath done so; why cannot he of his own Inclination, return his King Thanks, without calling in his Neighbours, to advise or consult about it: So in Affairs of far greater Importance, then any private good; the King sets out His Royal Declaration, to set forth what he hath done on behalf of Himself and his people: Now every man, as he feels himself satisfied in this Declaration may give Thanks or be Silent; If he return Thanks sure in his Thanksgiving he makes himself no National Judge: But in plain *Engliss*, the Addressers are envied, neither in giving Thanks, or determining of State-affairs, for every Coffee-house, (without a Quarrel) more peremptorily determines such Councils, then ever these Addressers have done: The only Grievance then lyes here, that the Kings Declaration should be such a Transcendent happy Star, to influence obedience on all or most parts of the Kingdom; so generally agreeing the whole Genius of the Nation, that the King no sooner declares, then all or most places, how far remote soever, do Eccho back their Thanks: And this mighty work so admirably wrought by Providence, can in no review be envy at His Majesty, or His Loyal Subjects, by any future Parliament: For the nearer a right understanding is every day more adjusted betwixt His Majesty and His People, the more will the Nation (if possible) be fill'd with Addressers. The last Section hath raised an Imp, (which the Libeller and all the Republicans, in a Circle together) can never acquiesce; for they will ask questions till they have puzzled themselves; And it is this, *That Addressers being so Pernicious, both in the Subject-matter and Tendency of them*; Why are they not made to appear to be so to the King from all parts of the Kingdom? A Fool may ask more questions, then ten Wise men can answer; And perchance (our Accomptant asking this question,) may more reasonably startle his Party, then all his preceding Arguments can allay them; especially his weak reply might be considered: For first the Addressers are not answered (saith he) because of an old Proverb, give some People Rope enough, and they will hang themselves: Which may properly intend Conspiracies or Associatings against a Lawful Prince, but can never understand a people, that are re-uniting themselves on Establish'd Laws: For the longer any time is given such Peaceable returns, the more numerous it grows in multitudes, and more heartily unites within it self. 2dly. They are not answered, because London having Petition'd, is a compendious Expressing the Sense of England; whereas it is well known under what influence the City Magistracy is at this day, yet even in this juncture do the

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Loyal Party in the Common-Council and Common-Hall near Struggle an equal number, and must in a short time much cast the Ballance, as appeareth by the Apprentices (ever to be remembred) Loyal Address. 3dly. They are not answered, because the Petitionary party here finding a Superlative number, might grow more secure then their dangers will allow, or more Insolent then their duty obliged: Whereas this seems a rule against all usual Policy; for Conspiracies are ever observed to grow more watchful then secure, by a Superiour strength on their side: To argue then secure, because of a strength, seems an idle Tale: If any thing can be well argued hence, it will be rather a growing more Insolent, then their duty doth oblige: And this, besides a probable guess, we have too surely learn'd by woful Experience: For what hath been play'd, we are sure would prove the same Game again; only they fail, in what (I trust Providence) will be ever wanting, the Militia, Ships, Castles, Garrisons, Ammunition, a number and strength of men. 4thly. They are not answered, because they foresaw it might occasion His Majesty to refuse Petitions, which yet would come accompanied with more Hands: I would pass this for a his reason, had ever a Republican done any thing in good Manners for Prince: However I shall do him Justice, in Copying out his Dying words: *It is good Manners (saith he) in Subjects, not to grieve too hard upon their Prince; but if he hath done any thing wherein they cannot acquiesce with that Contentment which they desire, to give him time and liberty to recollect himself: I call them his Dying words, for I am sure we should not have heard this Tune, had not his Petitionary cause been a dead Cause: And after all, one single Line of a Loyal Address, outweighs a whole Treatise of Commonwealth Compliments: Only I am glad he parts in such fair Terms, for it plainly argues, the Commonwealth Cause is gasping for its last Breath.*

In the last place, it is believed your Petitions will come too late to do the Addresses any harm; yet the Nation being undeceived, you may take any lawful course to undeceive the King: And when you have perswaded him to the liking of a Commonwealth, you may account the Addressers on your party: In the mean while, I resolve my self to be no Petitioner, except on the Throne of Grace; where I shall daily offer my Prayers, for a firm Union with King and People: To root out among us all Popish and Commonwealth Principles; to abate these Enemies, to assuage their Malice, and confound their Devices: And let every True-Hearted English-man say *Amen.*

God Save the KING.